MR. M. K. NILAKANTAN: അങ്ങനെയുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ സൌജന്യമായിട്ട് ആഹാരം കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നും എന്തെങ്കിലും വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടോ

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: We have induced certain social organisations to come up for this voluntary work.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I know how he is going to face the problem of underfeeding? You say it is largely due to underfeeding; what steps are Government going to take to solve the problem?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: Sir, in certain taluks the Tahsildars are distributing paddy, sugar etc., at a cheap rate.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I know the quantity that is distributed in Ranni.

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: The revenue authorities are better able to say that.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: Sir, is it a question of under-feeding or mal-nutrition?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: The under-feeding leads to mal-nutrition.

Birth and death statistics in certain taluks.

378. * MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state the following details for the taluks of Karunagapalli, Karthikapalli, Ambalapuzha, Shertallai, Vaikom and Parur and the towns of Alleppey, Vaikom and Parur for the year 1119:

(*a*) the ratio of deaths per 1000 population by (i) cholera (ii) small-pox, (iii) dysentery and diarrhoea and (iv) fevers;

(*b*) the total number of deaths in 1119;

(*c*) the rate of birth per mille of population and the rate of death per mille of population; and

(*d*) the rate of birth and rate of death per mille of population of the whole State in 1119?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: (*a*) to (*d*) A statement containing the information is laid on the table.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: What are those diseases—are they nutrition diseases—dysentery, diarrhoea and fevers?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: I beg his pardon the question is not very clear to me.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: From the statement given in answer to question 378, may I know whether dysentery, diarrhoea and fevers are nutrition diseases?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: They are water borne diseases. (Laughter.)

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: I mean, are they produced by mal-nutrition?

* *Vide* Appendix IV, page 912.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: No, Sir, even people with very strong constitution get it if they use water contaminated with germs.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: Am I then to take it that they are not caused by mal-nutrition?

PRESIDENT: I think—I am not a public health man or a nutrition expert—is it not on account of over eating?

MR. K. A. MATHEW: There is no case of over-eating in Travancore.

PRESIDENT: It may be good by way of propaganda, but it is not correct.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: The birth rate in 1119 in the whole State per mille of population is 19·72 and the death rate for the same year per mille of population in the whole State is 14·04, and from the table it is seen that for the Shertallai taluk, Parur town, Vaikom town and Alleppey town, the death rate is far greater than the birth rate. May I know what that indicated?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: The rate and the actual occurrences are quite different.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: Therefore, am I to take it that there is no relation between the two?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: The birth rate is clearly higher in those places. (Laughter.)

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: Sir, this is an important question and I cannot leave it. That is why I am trying this. It is stated that there was no famine and statistics show that there is an increased death rate compared with the birth-rate for these taluks. For the whole of the State the birth rate is greater than the death rate. For these taluks there is increased death rate and there is increased famine. I am asking the question whether the Director of Public Health has made any enquiries and reported the matter to Government.

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: Detailed enquiries were made and it was found that the actual birth rate is higher than the death rate. The poorer the people the greater the progeny. That may be one of the reasons The poorer the people, the greater its multiplication.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: What is the reason for that: that is the question. I want the answer.

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: It is so everywhere. The East-end has a birth rate higher than the West-end.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: Sir, when the death rate is being questioned, the honourable member is taking about the birth rate (Laughter.) May I ask him: what is the difference between the particular places and the whole State?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: I can answer him all the questions he is putting to me. In this particular area there was an occurrance of cholera.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. E. K. MADHAVAN (*Kunnathunad* cum *Parur*): With regard to answer for question No. 378, it is stated that in the Parur taluk the death rate due to cholera is ·6 and that due to small-pox 1·9, dysentery 1·08 and that due to fevers 2·01. May I know, what is the source of the information?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: The Departmental people collect statistics and this information is obtained from those statistics.

Midwifery centres under the District Health Officer, Kottayam.

379. *MR. K. R. NARAYANAN (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state regarding midwifery centres under the District Health Officer, Kottayam:

(*a*) a month-war statement of the delivery cases attended to by the midwives in each centre both within and without their centres from Chingom to 30th Edavom 1120;

(*b*) the number of mortalities both of mothers and infants in each centre following confinement; and

(*c*) the total number of pregnant women registered in each centre from Chingom to Edavom 1120?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: *A (*a*) statement furnishing the required information is placed on the table.

(*b*) Since the work in these centres which are run by the midwives consists mainly of aid during confinement, maternal mortality and infant death statistics are not collected in these centres. Further, in the absence of a full fledged public health programme as in the Health Unit of Neyyattinkara, such statistics may not be useful or dependable.

(*c*) *A statement furnishing the required information is placed on the table.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know the number of taluks included in the Kottayam health district?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: All the taluks in the revenue division. It is about 11 or 12 taluks.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: What is the number of pakuthies included in that health district?

PRESIDENT: It does not arise.

Sanitary arrangements.

380. *MR. G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha* cum *Shertallai*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that the present sanitary arrangements at Sabarimala are quite unsatisfactory and inadequate to meet the growing demand in view of the abnormal increase in the number of pilgrims year after year;

(*b*) the names of the thavalams where temporary privies were constructed during 1119 and 1120 and the number of ditches with their length and width; and

* *Vide* Appendix V A. & B. page 913.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly